

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HEW-06 NAS-01 PA-02 PRS-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:DKING

EUR/WE:JSWIHART

HEW:RFISCHER (SUBS)

NAS:PROSS (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 195888

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: SENV,IT, US

SUBJECT: LETHAL GAS EXPLOSION IN LOMBARDY--PROPOSED
MEDICAL TELECONFERENCE

REFERENCE: MANNIELLO/SPIELMAN TELECONS, 8/6/76

1. BASED ON INFORMATION CONVEYED IN REFERENCE TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS, DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT GOI WISHES TO CONDUCT SIX NATION MEDICAL CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELECAST INVOLVING ITALIAN, U.S., U.K., FRENCH, WEST GERMAN, AND SWISS MEDICAL EXPERTS. ALTHOUGH PRECISE FORMAT NOT YET DECIDED, EXPERTS OF VARIOUS MEDICAL SPECIALTIES WITH EXPERIENCE IN DIOXIN POISONING WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW HOSPITAL CASES RESULTING FROM TCDD EXPOSURE IN SEVESO AREA. TELECAST WOULD BE IN COLOR AND WOULD AIM AT EDITING RESULTS OF CLOSED-CIRCUIT COVERAGE FOR SUBSEQUENT THIRTY-MINUTE TRANSMISSION OVER RA1. NO DATE AND TIME HAVE YET BEEN SET FOR THE TELECAST.

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2. WE HAVE BRIEFED ITALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON WHICH HAS

INDICATED ITS READINESS TO ARRANGE FOR TV COVERAGE, WORKING CLOSELY WITH RA1 IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, ITALIAN EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DIRECT COMMUNICATION FROM GOI CONCERNING PLANS FOR TELECAST AND ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY EMBASSY. (COMMENT: WE WOULD SUGGEST ARRANGEMENTS ALSO BE DISCUSSED ON FUNDING OF TELECAST AND TRAVEL OF US PARTICIPANTS TO SITE OF TELECAST. END COMMENT.)

3. WE HAVE CONSULTED WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (NIH), AND NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (NAS), CONCERNING IDENTIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE US MEDICAL PARTICIPANTS. NIH AND NAS HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL CONSULT AND CONCERT ON CHOOSING APPROPRIATE MEDICAL SPECIALISTS FROM SEVERAL FIELDS INCLUDING DERMATOLOGY, TOXICOLOGY, INTERNAL MEDICINE, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND BIRTH DEFECTS. BASED ON WIDE SPECTRUM OF MEDICAL SPECIALTIES WHICH MIGHT BE INVOLVED, AS WELL AS SIX-NATION PARTICIPATION, FORMAT OF PRESENTATION SHOULD BE VERY CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT.

4. IN ORDER TO ASSURE AVAILABILITY AND WILLINGNESS OF US MEDICAL SPECIALISTS TO PARTICIPATE, WE INTEND TO CONTACT THOSE SELECTED BY NIH/NAS SOONEST. WILL ADVISE YOU AND ITALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON OF LIST OF NAMES EARLY NEXT WEEK. HABIB

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